

Application Serial No.: 09/818,684

Attorney Docket No. 032028-0311220

In Response to Office Action mailed April 5, 2005

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed April 5, 2005 (hereinafter "Office Action"), claims 66, 80, and 87 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer; claims 42, 54, 59-60, 73-74, 88-93, 95-100, and 102-103 have been amended; and claim 104 has been newly added. Claims 1-41, 43-53, and 55-58 were cancelled in one or more previous amendments. Therefore, claims 42, 54, 59-65, 67-79, 81-86, and 88-104 are pending. Support for the instant amendments is provided throughout the as-filed Specification. Thus, no new matter has been added. In view of the foregoing amendments and following comments, allowance of all the claims pending in the application is respectfully requested.

ALLOWED CLAIMS AND ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

In the Office Action, at pg. 4, ¶'s 5-6, the Examiner indicates that claims 42, 54, and 88-103 are allowed and indicates that claims 66, 70, 71, 80, and 84 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Examiner also provides a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter (*see* ¶7). Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. While Applicants do not necessarily disagree with the Reasons for Allowance set forth by the Examiner, Applicants note that other bases for patentability may exist and that this statement of reasons is not exhaustive and is not intended to limit the invention.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 59-65, 67-69, 72-79, 81-83, and 85-87 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,719,396 to Jack *et al.* ("Jack"), in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,948,038 to Daly *et al.* ("Daly"). *See* Office Action, pg. 2, ¶2. Applicants disagree with the rejections set forth by the Examiner. However, solely in an effort to expedite prosecution, the claims have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter.

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In particular, independent claim 59 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of dependent claim 66, while independent claim 73 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of dependent claim 80.

Newly added independent claim 104 incorporates the features of independent claim 59 and allowable dependent claim 71.

Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is earnestly sought.

CONCLUSION

Having addressed each of the foregoing rejections, it is respectfully submitted that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Date: July 5, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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